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IAC-D-39/4
22 August 1955

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INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sanitization of National Intelligence
Estimates for Use of SHAPE and NATO

1. The Board of National Estimates has studied the proposal of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, SHAPE, as transmitted to the Secretary, IAC, by the Army as executive agent. Both the policy implications and the problems of implementation were carefully considered.

2. The problems of implementing the SHAPE proposal generally would be numerous, time-consuming and make costly demands on the time of personnel now heavily committed to the production of intelligence for the United States Government. This in itself, however, is not sufficient reason for failing to honor the request of SHAPE, whose important mission justifies all aid that can be given by the intelligence community.

3. The SHAPE request indicates a primary interest in some half dozen NIE's, which for the most part are revised annually: the basic estimate of Soviet capabilities and intentions; Soviet air defense, atomic and guided missile capabilities; probable intelligence advance warning of attack; and an estimate of gross capabilities for attack against NATO forces -- an estimate not hitherto made except incidental

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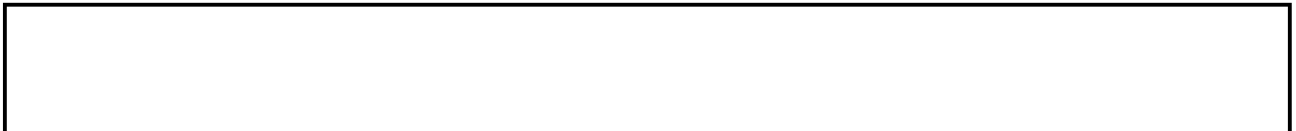
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to the estimate of Soviet capabilities to attack the U. S.

4. NIE's generally are prepared for the National Security Council. The ones referred to above in particular are prepared for the NSC either in connection with the US budget review process or the annual NSC net evaluation exercise.

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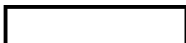


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6. A sanitization of these estimates



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 would result in estimates quite general in scope; these would include little by way of supporting details.

7. Conclusions

a. That it is not practical nor desirable to implement the proposal of SHAPE on a case by case basis.

b. That it is appropriate and feasible for the IAC to undertake annually on behalf of SHAPE, the preparation of an estimate which would summarize in sanitized form the conclusions of the various NIE's produced regularly which are of particular interest to SHAPE.

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8. Recommendation

That the IAC approve the reply to SHAPE by G-2 as executive agent incorporating the substance of the above conclusions along the lines of the attached (Tab "A").

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Draft Reply to Assistant Chief of Staff,
Intelligence, SHAPE, from Assistant Chief
of Staff, G-2, Department of the Army

Your request for sanitization of NIE's for use of Allied Command Europe was referred to the Intelligence Advisory Committee as the body responsible for producing the NIE's as well as for their release to foreign governments.

The Intelligence Advisory Committee, after careful review of the policy considerations and of the practical problems of implementation regrets to inform you that your proposal cannot be approved in its entirety.

Mindful of the problems attendant on providing a common intelligence base for a multi-national organization, the Intelligence Advisory Committee has agreed that it is prepared to:

- a. Produce annually for SHAPE a national intelligence estimate incorporating the conclusions of the various NIE's of particular interest to SHAPE, i.e., those on Bloc capabilities and intentions. The text of this NIE could, without attribution, be released to all NATO countries.

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